Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

a memory ~~storing executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor~~ including computer program code, the memory and computer program code configured to, with the processor, cause the apparatus to at least perform the following:

receiving a connection request ~~during operation of the apparatus in~~ via a network across which an originating client is configured to communicate;

preparing a network-independent trigger for transmission to a terminal in response to receiving the connection request; and

receiving a registration message, in response to the trigger, from the terminal via the network to thereby register the terminal with the apparatus and acquire a network-dependent identity of the terminal to thereby enable establishment of a communication session with the terminal based upon the network-dependent identity of the terminal.

2. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein receiving a connection request comprises receiving a connection request from the originating client, and wherein the memory ~~stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor~~ and computer program code are further configured to, with the processor, cause the apparatus to further perform preparing the connection request for transmission to the terminal after registering the terminal.

3. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein preparing the connection request comprises preparing the connection request for transmission to the terminal through at least one other apparatus.

4. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus is embodied in a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) proxy.

5. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein receiving a connection request comprises receiving a connection request, and thereafter causing the connection request to be stored in a buffer, and wherein preparing the connection request comprises retrieving the connection request from the buffer and thereafter preparing the connection request for transmission to the terminal based upon the network-dependent identity of the terminal.

6. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein receiving a registration message comprises receiving a registration message from the terminal via at least one of a network address translator (NAT) or a firewall (FW) operating between the apparatus and the terminal,

and wherein preparing a network-independent trigger comprises preparing a network-independent trigger for transmission in a manner independent of the at least one of the NAT or FW.

7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein receiving a registration message comprises receiving a subsequent registration message, and wherein the memory ~~stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor~~ and computer program code are further configured to, with the processor, cause the apparatus to further perform the following:

receiving a first registration message from the terminal before preparing the network-independent trigger for transmission to thereby register the terminal with the apparatus, wherein the first registration message includes a network-independent identity of the terminal,

and wherein preparing a network-independent trigger comprises preparing a network-independent trigger for transmission based upon the network-independent identity of the terminal.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein preparing a

network-independent trigger comprises preparing a network-independent trigger for transmission to the terminal ~~during operation of the apparatus in~~ via a network across which an originating client is configured to at least one of directly or indirectly communicate.

9. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the network comprises at least one of a public network or a private network.

10. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

a memory ~~storing executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor~~ including computer program code, the memory and computer program code configured to, with the processor, cause the apparatus to at least perform the following:

receiving a registration message ~~at the apparatus during operation in~~ via a network across which an originating client is configured to communicate, wherein receiving a registration message comprises receiving a registration message from a terminal ~~via the network~~ to thereby register the terminal with the apparatus, and wherein the registration message includes a network-independent identity of the terminal; and

preparing a network-independent trigger for transmission to the terminal based upon the network-independent identity of the terminal to thereby trigger the terminal to update registration of the terminal with the apparatus, including acquisition by the apparatus of a network-dependent identity of the terminal to thereby enable establishment of a communication session with the terminal based upon the network-dependent identity of the terminal.

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein the memory ~~stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor~~ and computer program code are further configured to, with the processor, cause the apparatus to further perform the following:

receiving a connection request, the trigger being prepared for transmission in response to receiving the connection request; and

preparing the connection request for transmission to the terminal after acquiring the network-dependent identity of the terminal.

12. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein preparing the connection request comprises preparing the connection request for transmission to the terminal through at least one other apparatus.

13. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein receiving a connection request comprises receiving a connection request, and thereafter causing the connection request to be stored in a buffer, and wherein preparing the connection request for transmission comprises retrieving the connection request from the buffer and thereafter preparing the connection request for transmission to the terminal based upon the network-dependent identity of the terminal to thereby enable establishment of the communication session.

14. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein the apparatus is embodied in a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) proxy.

15. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein receiving a registration message comprises receiving a registration message from the terminal via at least one of a network address translator (NAT) or a firewall (FW) operating between the apparatus and the terminal,

and wherein preparing a network-independent trigger comprises preparing a network-independent trigger for transmission to the terminal in a manner independent of the at least one of the NAT or the FW.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein receiving a registration message comprises receiving a first registration message, and wherein the memory ~~stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor~~ and computer program code are further configured to, with the processor, cause the apparatus to further

perform the following:

receiving a subsequent registration message from the terminal in response to the trigger being sent to the terminal to thereby update registration of the terminal and acquire the network-dependent identity of the terminal, thereby enabling establishment of a communication session with the terminal based upon the network-dependent identity of the terminal.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein receiving a registration message comprises receiving a registration message ~~during operation of the apparatus in~~ via a network across which an originating client is configured to at least one of directly or indirectly communicate.

18. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein the network comprises at least one of a public network or a private network.

19. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a connection request at an apparatus ~~during operation in~~ via a network across which an originating client is configured to communicate;

preparing a network-independent trigger for transmission from the apparatus to a terminal in response to receiving the connection request; and

receiving a registration message, in response to the trigger, at the apparatus from the terminal via the network to thereby register the terminal with the apparatus and acquire a network-dependent identity of the terminal to thereby enable establishment of a communication session with the terminal based upon the network-dependent identity of the terminal.

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 19, wherein receiving a connection request comprises receiving a connection request at the apparatus from the originating client, the method further comprising preparing the connection request for transmission to the terminal after registering the terminal.

21. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 20, wherein preparing the connection request comprises preparing the connection request for transmission from the apparatus to the terminal through at least one other apparatus.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 20, wherein receiving a connection request comprises receiving a connection request, and thereafter causing the connection request to be stored in a buffer, and wherein preparing the connection request comprises retrieving the connection request from the buffer and thereafter preparing the connection request for transmission to the terminal based upon the network-dependent identity of the terminal.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 19, wherein preparing a trigger for transmission to the terminal comprises preparing a trigger for transmission to the terminal from an apparatus comprising a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) proxy.

24. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 19, wherein receiving a registration message comprises receiving a registration message at the apparatus from the terminal via at least one of a network address translator (NAT) or a firewall (FW) operating between the apparatus and the terminal,

and wherein preparing a network-independent trigger comprises preparing a network-independent trigger for transmission in a manner independent of the at least one of the NAT or FW.

25. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 19, wherein receiving a registration message comprises receiving a subsequent registration message, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving a first registration message at the apparatus from the terminal before preparing the network-independent trigger for transmission to thereby register the terminal with the apparatus, wherein the first registration message includes a network-independent identity of the

terminal,

and wherein preparing a network-independent trigger comprises preparing a network-independent trigger for transmission based upon the network-independent identity of the terminal.

26. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 19, wherein preparing a network-independent trigger comprises preparing a network-independent trigger for transmission to the terminal ~~during operation of the apparatus in~~ via a network across which an originating client is configured to at least one of directly or indirectly communicate.

27. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 26, wherein the network comprises at least one of a public network or a private network.

28. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a registration message at an apparatus ~~during operation in~~ via a network across which an originating client is configured to communicate, wherein receiving a registration message comprises receiving a registration message from a terminal ~~via the network~~ to thereby register the terminal with the apparatus, and wherein the registration message includes a network-independent identity of the terminal; and

preparing a network-independent trigger for transmission to the terminal based upon the network-independent identity of the terminal to thereby trigger the terminal to update registration of the terminal with the apparatus, including acquisition by the apparatus of a network-dependent identity of the terminal to thereby enable establishment of a communication session with the terminal based upon the network-dependent identity of the terminal.

29. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 28 further comprising:

receiving a connection request at the apparatus from the originating client, the trigger being prepared for transmission in response to receiving the connection request; and

preparing the connection request for transmission from the apparatus to the terminal after

acquiring the network-dependent identity of the terminal.

30. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 29, wherein preparing the connection request comprises preparing the connection request for transmission from the apparatus to the terminal through at least one other apparatus.

31. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 29, wherein receiving a connection request comprises receiving a connection request, and thereafter causing the connection request to be stored in a buffer, and wherein preparing the connection request comprises retrieving the connection request from the buffer and thereafter preparing the connection request for transmission to the terminal based upon the network-dependent identity of the terminal to thereby enable establishment of the communication session.

32. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 28, wherein receiving a registration message at an apparatus comprises receiving a registration message at an apparatus comprising a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) proxy.

33. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 28, wherein receiving a registration message comprises receiving a registration message at an apparatus from the terminal via at least one of a network address translator (NAT) or a firewall (FW) operating between the apparatus and the terminal,

and wherein preparing a network-independent trigger comprises preparing a network-independent trigger for transmission to the terminal in a manner independent of the at least one of the NAT or the FW.

34. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 28, wherein receiving a registration message comprises receiving a first registration message, and wherein the method further comprises:

receiving a subsequent registration message at the apparatus from the terminal in

response to the trigger being sent to the terminal to thereby update registration of the terminal and acquire the network-dependent identity of the terminal, thereby enabling establishment of a communication session with the terminal based upon the network-dependent identity of the terminal.

35. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 28, wherein receiving a registration message comprises receiving a registration message ~~during operation of the apparatus in~~ via a network across which an originating client is configured to at least one of directly or indirectly communicate.

36. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 35, wherein receiving a registration message comprises receiving a registration message ~~during operation of the apparatus~~ via in a network comprising at least one of a public network or a private network.

37. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

a memory ~~storing executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor~~ including computer program code, the memory and computer program code configured to, with the processor, cause the apparatus to at least perform the following:

receiving a trigger from another apparatus operating in a network across which an originating client is configured to communicate, the trigger comprising a network-independent trigger; and in response to the receiving the trigger,

preparing a registration message for transmission to the other apparatus via the network to thereby register the apparatus with the other apparatus and acquire a network-dependent identity of the apparatus to thereby enable establishment of a communication session with the apparatus based upon the network-dependent identity of the apparatus.

38. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 37, wherein receiving a trigger comprises receiving a trigger in response to the other apparatus receiving a connection

request from the originating client, and wherein the memory ~~stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor~~ and computer program code are further configured to, with the processor, cause the apparatus to further perform receiving the connection request from the other apparatus after registering the apparatus.

39. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 38, wherein receiving the connection request comprises receiving the connection request from the other apparatus via at least one further apparatus.

40. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 38, wherein receiving a trigger comprises receiving a trigger in response to the other apparatus receiving, and thereafter storing in a buffer, a connection request from the originating client, and wherein preparing a registration message comprises preparing a registration message for transmission to the other apparatus to thereby enable the other apparatus to retrieve the connection request from the buffer and thereafter send the connection request to the apparatus based upon the network-dependent identity of the apparatus.

41. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 37, wherein receiving a trigger comprises receiving a trigger from another apparatus comprising a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) proxy.

42. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 37, wherein preparing a registration message comprises preparing a registration message for transmission to the other apparatus via at least one of a network address translator (NAT) or a firewall (FW) operating between the other apparatus and the apparatus,

and wherein receiving a trigger comprises receiving a trigger in a manner independent of the at least one of the NAT or the FW.

43. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 37, wherein preparing a

registration message comprises preparing a subsequent registration message for transmission, and wherein the memory ~~stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor~~ and computer program code are further configured to, with the processor, cause the apparatus to further perform:

preparing a first registration message for transmission to the other apparatus before receiving the trigger to thereby register the apparatus with the other apparatus, wherein the first registration message includes a network-independent identity of the apparatus to thereby enable the processor to receive the network-independent trigger based upon the network-independent identity of the apparatus.

44. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 37, wherein receiving a trigger comprises receiving a trigger from another apparatus operating in a network across which an originating client is configured to at least one of directly or indirectly communicating.

45. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 44, wherein receiving a trigger comprises receiving a trigger from another apparatus operating in a network comprising at least one of a public network or private network.

46. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

a memory ~~storing executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor~~ including computer program code, the memory and computer program code configured to, with the processor, cause the apparatus to at least perform the following:

preparing a registration message for transmission to another apparatus operating in a network across which an originating client is configured to communicate, wherein preparing a registration message comprises preparing a registration message for transmission via the network to thereby register the apparatus with the other apparatus, wherein the registration message includes a network-independent identity of the apparatus; and

receiving a network-independent trigger based upon the network-independent identity of

the apparatus to thereby trigger the apparatus to update registration of the apparatus with the other apparatus, including acquisition of a network-dependent identity of the apparatus to thereby enable establishment of a communication session with the apparatus based upon the network-dependent identity of the apparatus.

47. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 46, wherein receiving a network-independent trigger comprises receiving a network-independent trigger in response to the other apparatus receiving a connection request from the originating client, and wherein the memory ~~stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor~~ and computer program code are further configured to, with the processor, cause the apparatus to further perform receiving the connection request from the other apparatus after registering the apparatus with the other apparatus.

48. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 47, wherein receiving the connection request comprises receiving the connection request from the other apparatus node via at least one further apparatus.

49. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 47, wherein receiving a network-independent trigger comprises receiving a network-independent trigger in response to the other apparatus receiving, and thereafter storing in a buffer, the connection request, and wherein receiving the connection request comprises receiving the connection request from the other apparatus, the other apparatus having retrieved the connection request from the buffer and thereafter sent the connection request to the apparatus based upon the network-dependent identity of the apparatus.

50. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 46, wherein preparing a registration message comprises preparing a registration message for transmission to another apparatus comprising a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) proxy.

51. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 46, wherein preparing a registration message comprises preparing a registration message for transmission to another apparatus via at least one of a network address translator (NAT) or a firewall (FW) operating between the other apparatus and the apparatus,

and wherein receiving a network-independent trigger comprises receiving a network-independent trigger in a manner independent of the at least one of the NAT or the FW.

52. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 46, wherein preparing a registration message comprises preparing a first registration message for transmission to another apparatus to thereby register the apparatus with the other apparatus, and wherein the memory ~~stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor~~ and computer program code are further configured to, with the processor, cause the apparatus to further perform preparing a subsequent registration message for transmission to the other apparatus in response to receiving the trigger to thereby update registration of the apparatus and acquire the network-dependent identity of the apparatus to thereby enable establishment of a communication session with the apparatus based upon the network-dependent identity of the apparatus.

53. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 46, wherein preparing a registration message comprises preparing a registration message for transmission to another apparatus operating in a network across which an originating client is configured to at least one of directly or indirectly communicate.

54. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 46, wherein preparing a registration message comprises preparing a registration message for transmission to another apparatus operating in a network comprising at least one of a public network or a private network.